

On the 27th of April (ninety-eight days after deposition) they were excluded from the egg. Specimens were exhibited of thirty days old, taken on the 26th of May, measuring nearly an inch in length, and the ovum still adherent. On the 27th of June, at two months old, the fry measured an inch and a half in length; and on the 27th of October, at six months old, a specimen exhibited measured about four inches in length. The temperature of the pond and of the air was noted at the periods of examination. Another experiment in a different pond afforded analogous results. Mr. Shaw is of opinion, from what he has observed in these and former experiments, that the young salmon remains in its native stream for two years after being hatched; and that the Parr, or what is termed the Parr in his neighbourhood, is the young of the salmon.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

*Extract from an Address on the Fourth Anniversary, January 22nd, 1828.* By JAMES FRANCIS STEPHENS, F.L.S., President.

“ With regard to our *Collection of Insects*, it is with unusual satisfaction I announce that, from the prosperous state of our finances, as you have heard from the report of our worthy Treasurer—(appended at the end)—we shall be enabled to command the services of a paid assistant to those gentlemen who have so kindly and so liberally undertaken gratuitously to superintend its arrangement; and as we are now in possession of several excellent cabinets, I hope before the recurrence of another anniversary, the entire collection will be so far arranged as to be available to the student; for I speak advisedly when I add, that several individuals have hitherto declined joining our Society, and one has actually tendered his resignation, in consequence of our collection, extensive though it is, remaining in an unarranged condition. I need not, therefore, impress upon our valuable curators the boon they will confer upon the Society, by expediting as much as in their power the labours they have so handsomely undertaken to perform; though at the same time, knowing the various difficulties they have to encounter, we cannot expect their progress will be very rapid, from the very limited time they can afford to devote to the subject; at all events, I feel that the thanks of the Society are justly due to them for the exertions they have already made in furtherance of the task voluntarily imposed upon themselves, and, let us hope, that they will merit a reiteration of the same from their increased exertions on our behalf during the present year.

“ The design and objects of this Society have already been re-

peatedly alluded to by my predecessors ; nevertheless, I cannot avoid reverting to the fact, that one of its immediate, and, as it appears to me, most momentous objects, is the *publication* of the labours of its members ; and I am, therefore, happy to announce that the Fourth Part of our Transactions is now upon the table ready for distribution, and, I feel assured, that several of the papers will reflect great credit upon the writers, from their *practical utility*, and tend considerably to advance the views contemplated by the Society.

“ Amongst the latter, the Prize Essays established by the Society may be referred to for their *practical importance* to the Agriculturist ; the Essay proposed for the past year, was an investigation into the habits, &c. of the “Nigger,” or black caterpillar of the Turnip-Fly (*Athalia Centifoliae*), towards the prosecution of which the Agricultural Society of Saffron Walden joined us, by proposing an additional Five Guineas for the successful Essayist.

“ Surrounded as I am by individuals fully competent to judge of the vast and almost boundless extent of the subjects comprehended within the scope of the Society’s investigation, it may not be thought useless to suggest to them the adoption of the most simple methods of carrying their inquiries forward. Most of you, doubtless, have experienced, at one time or other, the vexatious loss of time consequent upon being compelled to wade through voluminous works for the purpose of ascertaining whether any account or description of the insect, then under your investigation, was therein contained, and after the most laborious research have been frequently disappointed in your endeavours to extract the wished-for information, arising from the diffused and miscellaneous character of such publications ; and, as I trust that our Transactions will eventually become voluminous, would it not be advisable for the working members of the Society to confine their labours, as far as practicable, to *groups*, in preference to the mere description of new and isolated *species* ? thereby gradually laying the foundation of a valuable series of Essays, by preparing a succession of monographs of such groups of insects as are but little known, and of which the descriptions, so far as they have appeared, lie scattered over numerous bulky volumes. I would, however, except from this rule all notices or descriptions of new species, regarding which any important fact of œconomy, physiology, structure, &c., may present itself ; but in this case, as well as in the previous instances of monographs, I would recommend that an occasional abstract of the species described in the preceding volumes of our Transactions should be prepared in an arranged form as an index to their contents, and as a guide to the student, and that

this arranged index should be occasionally continued, and the previous abstracts incorporated: indeed the necessity of rendering the results of our exertions accessible cannot be too much insisted upon. The astounding number of works, relating to Entomology, enumerated in Percheron's *Bibliographie Entomologique*, is sufficient evidence of the drudgery required by the investigator into the ascertainment of new species, &c.; but numerous as are the works recorded by that author, there appear to be so many serious omissions, that I cannot do better than reiterate the suggestion of my predecessor, that a Manuscript Catalogue should be formed as an Addendum to the above-mentioned work.

“ With respect to the various papers which have been presented to the Society, and have contributed towards our instruction or entertainment at our meetings during the past year, I have no particular remarks to make, than to observe, in general terms, that the most valuable of them will *shortly* appear in your Transactions; and I have great satisfaction in saying, it is the intention of your Council to publish our fasciculi at shorter intervals than has hitherto been the practice.”

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

*Extract from the First Annual Report, read 29th November, 1837; President, J. E. GRAY, F.R.S.*—“The number of British plants received amount to 4819 specimens, including ferns; 767 species, including 1313 specimens, have been arranged in the Herbarium, according to the system of De Candolle. The remaining 3506 duplicates, including 515 species, will be distributed to those persons who have favoured the Curator with lists of desiderata for that purpose. This distribution will take place under the direction of the Council in the months of December and January every year, when each member will receive such of his desiderata as may be contained among the duplicates in the Herbarium in proportion to his contributions: those gentlemen who have not contributed to the Herbarium receiving their duplicates after the distribution to the contributors has taken place. The Council beg also to inform the members, that in order to afford every facility for examining the Herbarium and Library, the rooms of the Society will be open one hour and a half previous to the ordinary meetings of the Society, when the Curator and Secretary will attend to render any assistance that may be required, and to circulate the books. In addition to the extensive and valuable collection of British plants, the Council beg to announce the receipt of a large collection of French plants, supposed to be a por-